

Appl. No. 09/762,294
Amdt. Dated February 18, 2004
Reply to Office action of October 22, 2003

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A ~~non-cytolytic~~ recombinant human immunodeficiency virus-1 (HIV-1) wherein the natural signal sequence (NSS) of the HIV-1 envelope glycoprotein gp120 ~~virus' envelope-glycoprotein~~ is replaced with an essentially non-cytolytic signal sequence.

Claim 2 (currently amended): A ~~non-cytolytic~~ recombinant human immunodeficiency virus-1 (HIV-1) wherein the natural signal sequence (NSS) of the HIV-1 envelope glycoprotein gp120 ~~virus' envelope-glycoprotein~~ is modified to provide an essentially non-cytolytic signal sequence.

Claim 3 (currently amended): ~~A non-cytolytic~~ The recombinant retrovirus HIV-1 according to claim 2 wherein the modified essentially non-cytolytic signal sequence is modified to contain no more than one positively charged amino acid.

Claim 4 (currently amended) ~~A non-cytolytic~~ The recombinant retrovirus HIV-1 according to claim 3 wherein the modified essentially non-cytolytic signal sequence is modified to contain zero positively charged amino acids.

Claim 5 (currently amended): ~~A retrovirus-recombinant human immunodeficiency virus-1 (HIV-1) according to claim 1~~ wherein the natural signal sequence (NSS) of the HIV-1 envelope glycoprotein gp120 is replaced with mellitin signal sequence (MSS) or IL-3 signal sequence (ILSS).

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Claim 6 (currently amended): A retrovirus—The recombinant HIV-1 according to any one of claims 1-5 wherein the retrovirus is rendered avirulent.

Claim 7 (currently amended); A retrovirus—The recombinant HIV-1 according to claim 6 wherein the retrovirus is rendered avirulent by deletion of the *nef* gene.

Claims 8-30 (deleted).